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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 24, 1985 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 19 totaled an estimated 18.0 billion ton-miles, 4.9 percent above the corresponding week of 1984, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 42 weeks of 1985 was an estimated 715.9 billion ton-miles, down 4.9 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended October 19 totaled 392,263, up 6.0 percent from last year, and virtually the same as the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 22.1 percent in the East, and 1.3 percent in the West, but down 1.3 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week of last year, 12 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased, but coal loadings were up by 21,703 cars (22.9 percent) and grain showed a gain of 2,103 cars (9.2 percent). Eleven of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 12 totaled 94,388 trailers and/or containers, 3.1 percent above the corresponding week of 1984.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 41 weeks of the year was 3,546,102 trailers and/or containers, down 1.8 percent from 1984.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/19/85:

	Loadings in Week ended October 19, 1985		Change from Corresponding Week 1984			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	24,922	I	2,103	9.2	I	2,041	8.9
Other farm products	4,184	D	580	12.2	I	227	5.7
Metallic ores	14,045	I	368	2.7	I	1,176	9.1
Coal	116,282	I	21,703	22.9	D	4,490	3.7
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,896	D	76	0.5	D	280	2.0
Nonmetallic minerals	11,774	I	664	6.0	I	572	5.1
Grain mill products	10,919	I	375	3.6	I	528	5.1
Food and kindred products	11,354	I	178	1.6	I	417	3.8
Primary forest products	11,298	D	1,836	14.0	I	349	3.2
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,902	D	322	4.5	I	417	6.4
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,339	D	1,103	7.6	D	124	0.9
Chemicals and allied products	23,814	D	300	1.2	I	643	2.8
Petroleum products	4,697	I	68	1.5	D	66	1.4
Stone, clay and glass products	10,698	D	423	3.8	D	112	1.0
Coke	4,759	D	145	3.0	I	348	7.9
Metals and products	7,594	D	404	5.1	I	28	0.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,740	I	1,600	7.9	D	928	4.1
Waste and scrap materials	8,774	D	708	7.5	D	397	4.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	6,476	D	1,246	16.1	D	340	5.0
All other carloads	64,633	I	2,200	3.5	D	151	0.2
LCL traffic	163	D	76	31.8	D	35	17.7
Total Cars Loaded	392,263	I	22,040	6.0	D	177	0.0
Corresponding week of 1984	370,223						

	1985	1984	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (42 weeks)	15,759,482	16,665,561	D 5.4
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
41 Weeks ended October 12	697.9	735.6	D 5.1
Week ended October 19	18.0	17.2	I 4.9
42 weeks cumulative	715.9	752.8	D 4.9

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